

Applicant : Hao Yuan
Serial No. : 10/018,981
Filed : December 18, 2001
Page : 3 of 3

Attorney's Docket No.: 13774-002001 / I01113/US

REMARKS

This document is a response to the final office action dated April 1, 2003, the advisory action dated July 24, 2003, and the advisory action dated February 27, 2004.

Pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion, Applicant has rewritten claims 17 and 18 in independent form by including all of the limitations recited in the base claim 16. The Examiner agreed in the advisory action dated February 27, 2004 that this amendment would place this application in condition for allowance.

Applicant has also canceled claims 16, 19, and 21 without prejudice. Claims 1-15 and 20 were canceled in responses filed earlier. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any of the canceled claims in a continuing application.

No new matter has been introduced by the above amendments. Claims 17 and 18 are currently pending. Applicant asks that both claims be allowed.

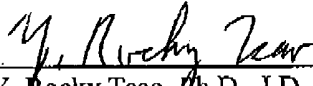
Applicant's counsel had a telephone conference on March 23, 2004 with the Examiner. During the conference, the Examiner agreed that, to expedite the prosecution, Applicant could submit this document via facsimile. He further indicated that he would issue a Notice of Allowance by March 26, 2004 so that only fees for a four-month extension, instead of a five-month extension, had to be paid.

Please apply \$740 for the Petition for Extension of Time fee to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney's Docket No. 13774-002001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

3-23-04


Y. Rocky Tsao, Ph.D., J.D.
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,053

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906
20828486.doc